

The Daily Astorian.

Vol. XVI.

Astoria, Oregon. Thursday Morning, October 13, 1881.

No. 11.

Some Anomalies of Maritime Law.

Some of the absurdities which still find a place in the maritime laws of the United States, have been illustrated in a small but annoying way in San Francisco. Some time ago a wealthy resident, interested in aquatics, purchased a small steam launch for his own entertainment on the bay. The launch was, however, a foreign bottom. Whenever he wanted to sail in her he had to get a special permit from the Port Collector, as the maritime laws forbid foreign bottoms sailing from one domestic port to another. But the steam yacht-owner's troubles had only begun. On top of the restriction mentioned came a multitude of regulations concerning boiler inspections, engineer licenses, etc., which had to be complied with. These became so oppressive that the owner, as a matter of self-protection, was forced to resort to strategy. The subterfuge of placing the steam launch at the service of a United States revenue cutter, and "borrowing" the launch and two of the cutter's engineers whenever the owner wanted to take a pleasure cruise, answered very well for a while. But like many other human plans it had its day and had to be abandoned. The upshot of it was the shipment of the launch to British Columbia, the United States regulations being drawn so tightly as to make it impossible to use her here without constant violation of law and liability to heavy fine.

Another illustration of some of the absurdities of the United States maritime laws in relation to steam vessels is now lying in Mission bay. This is also a steam launch built for pleasure purposes only, and owned by the Spreckels Bros. She differs from the launch just mentioned in the fact that she is home-made and not of foreign build. She was fitted with a beautiful engine and boiler, and the United States Inspector was invited to inspect her for the issuance of a license. The boiler was condemned because made of English iron, the law requiring that it should be made of Pennsylvania iron. A Pennsylvania boiler was substituted, but the Inspector then directed attention to the omission of a certain pump required by the law. The pump was provided, when the owners were informed that she needed a licensed engineer and a licensed master before she could go into service. It ended in mooring the vessel and she has not been used since. It may be stated, parenthetically, that all steam vessels, irrespective of size, are required to be provided with licensed engines and boilers, a licensed engineer, a licensed assistant engineer, a licensed master and a licensed mate.

Another of the absurdities of the maritime laws is likely to be brought out, conspicuously before long in this harbor. A member of one of the yacht clubs who has been recently sojourning in England has purchased and shipped on board a vessel bound to this port, a 10-ton English cutter. The vessel is to be used only for the purpose of pleasure. The owner and his sons anticipate lots of pleasure in cruising in and out of the bay. But the question which puzzles the knowing ones is, how shall this English cutter be landed and used here? The English cutter Madge, which has for the past eight or nine days been racing in New York waters, had to get a special permit from the New York Collector of Customs, which permit provides that the Madge shall be returned to England. Many years ago the Western Union

Telegraph company was confronted with a similar problem and solved it in a very ingenious manner. The company was at the time constructing the Collins Overland Russian American telegraph line. To connect the two continents at Behring straits, an English-made cable was purchased. After the purchase of the cable the construction of the line was abandoned. The company then purchased the British ship Egmont, which carried the cable, and left it in her hold to save storage on shore, until such time as the cable might be sold or used elsewhere. It subsequently appeared necessary that the ship should ply between two or more American ports in the discharge of her cargo. But the impediment of "foreign bottom" was in the way. To overcome this obstacle, the Egmont was placed on the ways at Victoria, V. I., and in the presence of the United States Consul a plank was taken out of the bottom of the ship below the water line and a piece of timber grown on American soil substituted. Necessary affidavits of the change of the Egmont's nationality were made out in the Consul's office, which was constructively American soil, and papers were issued to her as an American ship. The simplicity of the change only draws out more strongly the absurdity of the law which made such a change necessary to enable the vessel to trade in American waters. Perhaps the owner of the 10-ton English cutter will find it an equally convenient method of naturalizing the craft. If not, she will no doubt, have to go the way of the foreign-built steam launch, and his day dreams of pleasure-cruising will vanish in thin air.—S. F. Bulletin.

Technical Esthetes.

A couple of cattle thieves at San Jose were convicted in 1879 and sentenced to five years' imprisonment in San Quentin. In writing out the verdict a jurymen improperly spelled the word *defendants*. The document read: "We find the defendants guilty." On this quibble the case of one of the thieves was appealed to the Supreme court. After long pondering on the weighty subject that august tribunal has just decided in the thief's favor. The case is not one of striking importance, save that it illustrates what is constantly occurring in our courts. The law no longer inquires: "Is this man a thief? Is he a swindler? Is he a murderer? Did he actually commit the crime he is charged with?" On the contrary, it turns its large magnifying glass on the case and practically says: "Is there any possible technicality by means of which this worthless scoundrel can be shielded from punishment? If there is, we want to find it." The law seeks to exclude from the jury-box men who read the daily papers and who are wide awake and intelligent, and in the case under consideration, nullifies a verdict because, naturally enough, a jurymen is too ignorant to spell correctly. A thief is turned loose, not because he is innocent, but because a jurymen proves to be ignorant. The jurymen was really on trial, at great expense to the public, instead of the thief. The investigation was one concerning orthography and not cattle-stealing, as was erroneously supposed. And this is what they call law in California—an article that costs taxpayers and litigants vast sums of money annually. Our courts have become arenas in which technical esthetes assemble to split hairs, strain at legal gnats and save the guilty from punishment.—S. F. Chronicle.

How Uncle Silas Run a Caucus.

When poor old Uncle Silas Paterson went to his grave not a mourner followed, and never will a tear moisten the earth above him. In by-gone days he aspired to be a political leader, and there are plenty of men who remember how he once ran a ward caucus. Knowing his ambition to become a power in the third ward, three or four old jokers put up a plan to make him chairman of the caucus shortly to be held, and they visited him in a body and explained:

"Everything will depend on how you run this caucus. Be calm. Be dignified. Don't let any one ride over you. One will move this and the other that, but you must refuse to entertain any motions until you have ascertained the pleasure of the meeting."

Uncle Silas was delighted and puffed up, and he could hardly wait for the hour which was to witness his triumph. He was called to the chair, as planned, and after a few remarks to prove his gratitude, he called for order and said:

"Now, then, what is the pleasure of the meeting?"

A citizen rose in reply and began:

"I move you, Mr. Chairman, that we now proceed—"

"Order! Order!" called Uncle Silas.

"I am in order."

"You are not! Take your seat or I'll have you put out."

The astonished elector dropped back to second fiddle, and Uncle Silas continued:

"Now, then, what is the pleasure of the meeting?"

"I move that we proceed to ball—"

It was another elector, and he had only got thus far when the Chairman cried out:

"I call for order. If we can't have order we might as well adjourn. I now ask you for the third time, what is the pleasure of the meeting?"

The electors were dumbfounded for a time, but one of them recovered a little sooner than the rest and asked:

"Is this a caucus?"

"You bet!" answered Uncle Silas.

"Are we here to nominate ward officers?"

"We are."

"Then, sir, I move that we proceed—"

"Order! order!" yelled the chairman. "That's the third or fourth time that trick has been tried here, and the next man who makes a motion before I have found out the pleasure of the meeting will be put out. Now, then, is there any pleasure in this meeting? If so, where is it and what is it?"

He soon discovered. About twenty men rushed for him at once, and he went out of the window like a bag of sand, and before he had come to, the caucus had transacted its business and adjourned. The incident not only cured Uncle Silas's ambition to be a politician but it is doubtful if he ever cast another vote.—Detroit Free Press.

Something New.

A Cœur d'Alene correspondent of the Spokane Chronicle thus describes a newly discovered feature of that country: "I am able to give you the description of a new feature of interest which is situated on Cœur d'Alene river and about sixteen miles from its mouth in what has been called by Capt. Sorenson, Green Island, from the fact that from a distance it looks as though it was entirely surrounded by water and green meadows. But this mountain we have been informed by Father Goosie, of the Hangman mission,

is called "Smokokum" or Medicine mountain. This mountain is 300 feet high and about a mile in diameter at its base and is situated in the center of Cœur d'Alene valley. On the side of this mountain there is an old Indian cemetery; also two slate stone walls about three feet high and of some length, evidently placed there by human hands, for what purpose we cannot imagine. The superstitious Siwash who imagines he is going to die comes there. The ill and sick also visit it and gather the herbs and dig up the roots which abound here for medicinal purposes. They then erect their tipis and remain until they are cured or fancy so. On the summit of this mountain there is a large cross that was erected 33 years ago by Father De Smet, a Catholic missionary."

Col. Dan Murphy, of California, is the largest land-holder in the world. He 4,000,000 acres in Mexico, 60,000 in Nevada, and 22,000 in California. His Mexican land he bought four years ago for \$200,000 or about five cents an acre. It is sixty miles in extent and covers a beautiful country of hill and valley, pine timber and meadow land, and comes within twelve miles of the city of Durango, which is a station on the Mexican Central railway.

Hereafter the Oregonian Railway company's lines from Ray's Landing to Brownsville on the east side, and from Fulquartz Landing to Airline on the west side, will be known as "The Narrow-Gauge Division of the Oregon Railway and Navigation company."

Peruvian Bitters.

The Count Cincel was the Spanish Consul in Peru in 1830. The Countess, his wife, was prostrated by an intermittent fever, from which she was freed by the use of the native remedy, the Peruvian bark, or, as it was called in the country, "Quinaquina." Grateful for her recovery, on her return to Europe in 1832, she introduced the remedy in Spain, where it was known under various names, until Linnaeus called it Cinchona, in honor of the lady who had brought them that which was more precious than the gold of the Incas. To this day, after a lapse of two hundred and fifty years, science has given us nothing to take the place of the Cinchona. The powerful tonic virtue of the Cinchona is preserved in the Peruvian Bitters, which are as effective against malarial fever today as they were in the days of the old Quinaquina. We guarantee the ingredients of these bitters to be absolutely pure, and of the best known quality. A trial will satisfy you that this is the best bitter in the world. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and we will gladly abide this test. For sale by all druggists, grocers and liquor dealers. Order it.

A cough, cold or sore throat should be stopped. Neglect frequently results in an incurable lung disease or consumption. Brown's Bronchial Troches do not disperse the irritation, but soothe and soothe, and soothe the inflamed parts, allaying irritation, give relief in asthma, bronchitis, coughs, catarrh, and the throat troubles which surgeons and public speakers are subject to. For thirty years Brown's bronchial troches have been recommended by physicians, and always give perfect satisfaction. Having been tested by wide and constant use for nearly an entire generation, they have attained well-merited rank among the few staple remedies of the age. Sold at 25 cents a box everywhere.



King of the Blood

Is not a "cure-all." It is a blood-purifier and tonic. Impurity of the blood poisons the system, deranges the circulation, and thus induces many disorders, known by different names to distinguish them according to effects, but being really branches or phases of that great genetic disorder, *Impurity of Blood*. Such are Dyspepsia, Biliaryness, Liver Complaint, Constipation, Nervous Disorders, Headache, Rheumatism, General Weakness, Heart Disease, Dropsy, Kidney Disease, Gout, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Scrofula, Skin Disorders, Pimples, Eruptions, etc. *King of the Blood* prevents and cures these by attacking the cause, impurity of the blood. Chemists and physicians agree in calling it "the most genuine and efficient preparation for the purpose." Sold by Druggists, 25¢ per bottle. See testimonials, directions, etc., in pamphlet "Treatise on Diseases of the Blood," wrapped around each bottle. D. RANSOM, BOX 8, C. P. Prop., Buffalo, N. Y.

Notice.

Just received per steamer Columbia, a fine lot of eastern oysters, which will be served up in first class style at Roscoe's, Occident block.

Eastern Oysters.

Another fine lot of Eastern Oysters just received at Roscoe's, per steamer Oregon. Occident block.

Brick! Brick! Brick!

I have on hand a large amount of brick for sale at from \$5 to \$8 per thousand. Call and examine, near Astoria cemetery. JOHN WILLIAMSON.

Choice Valley Fruit.

Capt. J. H. D. Gray has just received a choice lot of pears and apples, fresh from the orchards of Polk and Marion counties, which will be sold in lots to suit purchasers.

Sherman Bros. Express.

Will receive orders at the store of L. W. Case for upper Astoria or any other part of the city. Leave your orders on the slate and they will be promptly attended to.

What is all this About?

It is all nothing. Facts prove that I keep the best beer in Astoria, the regular Albany beer. Also the genuine Albany Bottled Beer kept always on hand. CHAS. BRATKE.

Roscoe's New Place.

Roscoe, the popular caterer, invites all his old patrons, and as many new ones as may be pleased to make him a visit, to call at his new Ice Cream Saloon, on Chenamus street, Occident hotel block, which he has just fitted up in first class style.

—Max Wagner's San Francisco National brewery beer can't be beat.

—King of the Blood is not a "cure-all," but in all disorders attributable to impurity of blood and its defective circulation, nothing else equals its effect. See advertisement.

Have Wistar's balsam of wild cherry always at hand. It cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, whooping cough, croup, influenza, consumption, and all throat and lung complaints. 50 cents and \$1 a bottle.

HALL'S VEGETABLE SCISSOR HAIR REMOVER is a scientific combination of some of the most powerful restorative agents in the vegetable kingdom. It restores gray hair to its original color. It makes the scalp white and clean. It cures dandruff and humors, and falling out of the hair. It furnishes the nutritive principle by which the hair is nourished and supported. It makes the hair moist, soft and glossy, and is unsurpassed as a hair dressing. It is the most economical preparation ever offered to the public, as its effects remain a long time, making only an occasional application necessary. It is recommended and used by eminent medical men, and officially endorsed by the State Assayer of Massachusetts. The popularity of Hall's Hair Remover has increased with the test of many years, both in this country and in foreign lands, and it is now known and used in all the civilized countries of the world. FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS.

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Which will be sold at lowest rates, wholesale and retail. Special attention given to supplying ships.

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IT IS GUARANTEED THAT THIS BEER WILL NEVER SOUR.

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